

November 24, 2024

Totenfest

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: With the day breaking we are saying *thank you*.

All: We are stopping on the bridges to bow from the railings,

One: We are running out of the glass rooms with our mouths full
to look at the sky and say *thank you*.

**All: Remembering pain and the joy at the door
we go on saying thank you, thank you!**

One: With the saints of the church dying around us
and the promise of life at the heart of our faith, we go on saying *thank you*.

**All: We are saying thank you, faster and faster, thank you, thank you!
Amen.**

(adapted from *Thanks* by W.S Merwin)

* Please stand if you are able to do so.

* HYMN

For All the Saints

1. For all the saints who from their labors rest, Who
2. Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might:_____
3. O blest communion, fellowship divine!_____
4. And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,_____

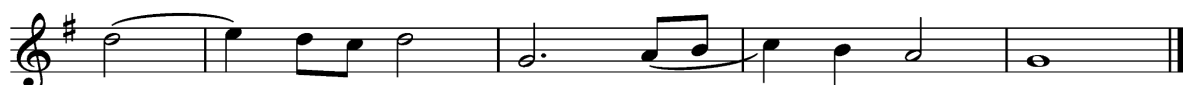


thee_____ by faith before the world confessed, thy
Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;_____

We feebly struggle, they in glory shine; Yet
Steals on the ear the distant triumph song, And



name O_____ Je - sus, be forever_____ blest.
Thou, in the dark - ness dread, their one true light.
all are_____ one in thee, for all are thine.
hearts are_____ brave a - gain, and arms are strong.



Al - - le - lu - ia! Al - - le - lu - ia!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Liz Nickerson

Lord our God, forgive us.

You should guide us, but we follow ourselves.

You should rule us, but we judge ourselves.

You should console us, but we comfort ourselves.

We live as if your truth is too much, and your love is too free.

They are not! Without them, we are miserable.

Heal us with your presence.

Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*Sunday School students are invited to go to their classrooms.
If you would like to accompany your child(ren),
you are welcome to drop them off and return to worship.*

RESPONSE

Be Still My Soul

verses 1 & 2

1. Be still, my soul: for God is on your side; _____ bear pa-tient-
 2. Be still, my soul: for God will un-der-take _____ to guide in
 3. Be still, my soul: the hour will soon be here _____ when we shall

-ly the cross of grief or pain; _____ Leave to your God to
 fu-ture days as in the past. _____ Your hope, your con-fi-
 be with God whom we a-dore, _____ with dis-ap-point-ment

or-der and pro-vide; _____ in ev-ery change God
 -dence let noth-ing shake; _____ all now mys-te-rious
 gone, no grief nor fear, _____ sor-row re-placed with

faith-ful will re-main. _____ Be still, my soul: your best e-ter-nal
 shall be clear at last. _____ Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still
 joy for-ev-er-more. _____ Be still, my soul: when change and tears are

friend _____ through thorn-y ways leads to a joy-ful end.
 know _____ how Je-sus' pow-er ruled them long a-go.
 past, _____ all safe and bless-ed we shall meet at last.

SCRIPTURE

David Faulkner

Revelation 7

After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" All who were standing around the Throne—Angels, Elders, Animals—fell on their faces before the Throne and worshiped God, singing:

**"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom,
Thanksgiving and honor and power and might,
Be to our God forever and ever. Amen."**

Just then one of the elders addressed me, "Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?" Taken aback, I said, "Sir, you are the one who knows." Then he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them. They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

* STATEMENT OF FAITH

**We believe in God who has created and is creating,
who has come to us in Jesus Christ to reconcile and make us new,
who works in us and others by the Holy Spirit.**

**We trust God. God calls us to be the Church,
to celebrate God's presence,
to love and serve others,
to care for creation,
to seek justice and to resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.
In life and death, in life beyond death, God is with us.
We are not alone. Thanks be to God!**

(adapted from the United Church of Canada)

* RESPONSE

Be Still My Soul
See previous hymn

verse 3

SERMON

"Tear Ducts for What"

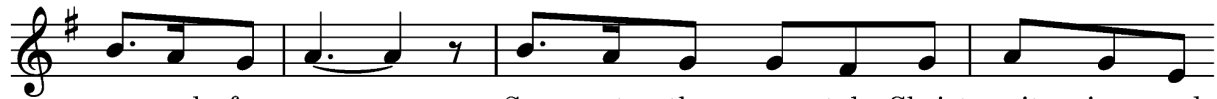
Matt Fitzgerald

* HYMN

Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling



1. Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
2. Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
3. Time is now fleet - ing, the mo - ments are pass - ing, pass - ing from
4. O for the won - der - ful love Je - sus prom - ised, prom - ised for



you and for me;___ See at the por - tals Christ wait - ing and
you and for me?___ Why should we lin - ger and heed not God's
you and from me;___ Shad - ows are gath - er - ing, death - beds are
you and for me;___ Though we have sinned Je - sus of - fers us



watch - ing, watch - ing for you and for me. ___
mer - cies, mer - cies for you and for me? ___ Come home, ___ come
com - ing, com - ing for you and for me. ___
par - don, par - don for you and for me. ___



home, ___ All who are wea - ry come home; ___ Ear - nest - ly,



ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing— call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

OFFERTORY

Goin' Home

Antonin Dvořák

Kecia Waldschmidt, Jana O'Brien and Todd Coe, soloists
Chancel Choir

Goin' home, goin' home, I'm a goin' home
Quietlike, some still day, I'm just goin' home.
It's not far, just close by, through an open door
Work all done, care laid by, Going to fear no more
Mother's there, exspecting me, Father's waiting, too.
Lots o' folk gathered there, all the friends I know. All the friends I know.
Nothin' lost, all's gain, no more fret nor pain
No more stumblin' on the way, no more longin' for the day

Going to roam no more

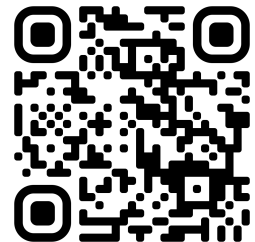
Mornin' star lights the way, restless dream all done
Shadows gone, break o' day, real life just begun.
There's no break, ain't no end, just a livin' on
Wide awake with a smile, goin' on and on
Goin' home, goin' home, I'm just goin' home.
It's not far, just close by, through an open door
I'm a goin' home. I'm just goin' home.

You can give to St. Pauls electronically:

Scan this code with your cell phone camera,

Church Center at spucc.churchcenter.com/giving,

PayPal at spucc.org/paypal, or Zelle to giving@spucc.org.



TOTENFEST TIME OF REMEMBRANCE

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.

Amen.

* HYMN

Now Thank We All Our God

The Chancel Choir will lead the first stanza
with the congregation joining on stanzas 2 and 3.

1. Nun dank - et al - le Gott, mit Herz - en, Mund und Händ - en,
2. Now thank we all our God With heart and hands and voic - es,
3. All praise and thanks to God Our Mak - er now be giv - en,

der gro - sse Ding - e tut an uns und al - len End - en;
Who won - drous things has done, In whom this world re - joic - es,
To Christ, and Spir - it, too, our help in high - est heav - en,

der uns von Mut - ter - leib und Kind - es - bein - en an
Who, from our par - ents' arms, Has blessed us on our way
The one e - ter - nal God, Whom earth and heav'n a - dore,

un - zäh - lig viel zu gut bis hier - her hat ge - tan.
With count - less gifts of love, And still is ours to - day.
For thus it was, is now, And shall be ev - er - more.

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

A - men, A - men, A - - - men.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two staves. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef, and the bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The key signature is D minor (three flats) and the time signature is 4/4. The vocal line has three phrases: 'A - men,' 'A - men,' and 'A - - - men.' The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines.

POSTLUDE

Final from Symphony No. 1 in D minor, Op. 14

Louis Vierne

Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

We welcome Lara Driscoll who is substituting for Brendan Henry.

Brendan will return next week.

INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

- Childcare is available for babies and toddlers up to age 5 during worship from 10-11 a.m. in the Nursery and Toddler Room downstairs.
- Sunday school and Confirmation class are meeting today.

THE TOTENFEST ROLL

*Members of St. Pauls who died this church year, and friends
at whose services a St. Pauls pastor officiated*

Sophia Sorensen Jones
November 29, 2023

Ken Haycock
April 4, 2024

Richard Berns
August 23, 2024

John Curren
December 28, 2023

Leroy Ralph Johnson
May 24, 2024

Eleanor Westfall
October 24, 2024

Joyce Groth
March 26, 2024

Dave Verduin
July 29, 2024

William Kennedy
November 4, 2024

Sally Etz
August 1, 2024

TOTENFEST MEMORIALS

Bill Kennedy and Judge Michael P. Toomin from Gay and Moe Kelly
Ken, Wanda, and BJ Heinemann from Gay and Moe Kelly
All past choir members from Gay and Moe Kelly
Judy Fielding from cousin Bruce and Patricia Reider and family
Joyce Groth from her brother, Garry Prange
Rose Stone, from her granddaughters Elison and Cecilia Barlow, grandchildren of Juanita Barlow
Leroy and Henrietta Dykstra from Lynn and Andrew Davis
Lee Dykstra from Lynn and Andrew Davis
Marlene Dykstra Van't Hul from Lynn and Andrew Davis
Edward Seely Davis from Lynn and Andrew Davis
Dolores Pifer from her family and friends
Janet Palmaccio from Emma Peterson-Becker and Adam Becker
Tim Lefens from Emma Peterson-Becker and Adam Becker
Michael Fayhee from Deon Fayhee
Dave Verduin from Marcia Opp
Charles and Marion Joachim from Maxine Joachim
Carlos Godinez and Eric Gilliland from Nancy Godinez
Dolores Pifer from Janet Musich
Bill Kennedy from Peg Wander and Larry Simpson
Ed Zasadil, from his spouse, Larry Simpson
Irene Horacek from Larry Simpson
Ross C. Anderson from Larry Simpson
Janice Lohman from Scott, Shannon and Sean Banjavcic
Linda, James, Tressa, and Tara Meinders from Troy Meinders and Tricia and Abe Najera

The Altar Flowers today are given by Troy and Tyler Harrington-Meinders and Tricia and Abe Najera and their family in memory of Troy and Tricia's mother, Linda, who passed away 40 years ago this year on All Saints Day at age 39; their sister, Tressa, who passed away a year later at age 8; their sister, Tara, who passed away at age 37, and their, father, James, who passed away at age 70. All passed of cancer. There is one red rose in the arrangement for each of them, and one additional rose in honor and memory of their grandparents, Bill and Swanetta Hemmen and Kuno and Henrietta Meinders. Troy's mom's favorite flowers were pink lilies and Tara's favorite flowers were orange daisies.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Clergy: Matt Fitzgerald, Liz Nickerson

Music Director: Kurt R. Hansen

Organist: Kevin Dzierzawski

St. Arbucks Quartet: Brendan Henry, piano; Alex Austin, bass; Matt Plaskota, drums; Kris Hansen, trumpet & vocals

Lay Liturgical Administrator: Kevin O'Brien

Scripture Reader: David Faulkner

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: John Balevic, David Faulkner

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

Camera Operators: Jim Alrutz, Marie Ankenman, Bob Ball, Brian Hafner, Trevor Hafner, Maurice Wallace

Custodian: Ramiro Gonzalez

BORN THIS WEEK IN NOVEMBER

We give thanks for your life at St. Pauls. A perfect way to celebrate is by giving one dollar for each year of your life to our Birthday Fund, which supports A Just Harvest.

Nov. 24 Austin Luciano Mirabal Hernández, Hannah Mutch, Jake Lippert,
Pierce Pranglely, Shari Charlton

Nov. 25 Daniel Lias

Nov. 26 Carrie Bettler

Nov. 27 Bennett England, Gustavo Mirabal, Steve Mannina

Nov. 28 Barbara Arsenault, Lisa Patterson Raterman, Luisa Graciela Navarro,
Michael VanSomeren

Nov. 29 Lily Mooney

ST. PAULS PRAYS

Please clip this page and pray for those who are named below. To have your prayer request included, simply ask a pastor in person, on the phone or by email.

Our practice is to run each prayer request for four weeks and then remove it.

If you would like to continue a prayer request after four weeks, let a pastor know.

- The family of Don Johnson, beloved uncle of Jim Waldschmidt, who passed away after a long illness.
- Bob Ball's brother, Phill, being treated for complications associated with leukemia, and Jane, who is Phill's primary caregiver.
- Theresa Herlevsen at the death of her father.
- David Folkes's daughter, Sarah Philomena, who has entered hospice.
- Cheryl Kennedy at the death of Bill Kennedy. A memorial service is being planned for January 11 at 1 p.m.
- Sally Acker, recovering from a fall.
- Ginna Gentzen at the death of her mother.
- Jen Kew's father, Jim, diagnosed with a progressive lung disease.
- Jessica Ashley, recovering from breast cancer surgery.
- Diane Biegert, recovering from a hip replacement.
- Dan Von Bargen, being treated for multiple myeloma.
- Kelly Jo Taylor's nephew, Stuart Ault, hospitalized for a motorcycle accident.
- Nancy Bingaman's niece struggling with anxiety.
- Pat Kirby, dealing with a housing crisis.
- Karen Johnson and Nancy Barnett's father, Len, recovering from a fall.
- Judy Johnson, friend of Bobbi Ganello, recuperating from cancer treatments.
- Mike Stensaas, dealing with health problems.
- Scott Hibbard at the death of his father, John.
- David Baker's brother-in-law, Roger Robert, as he deals with the onset of Parkinson's disease.
- Prayers for peace - in our city, nation and world.
- Carole Crowley, recovering from a stroke.

Prayer, Support, Mental Health Resources

Even when you walk through the valley of shadows, God is with you. Help is available for every kind of issue. Contact one of the pastors today for support, referrals, and information that can help you and your loved ones.

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS AT ST. PAULS

- SUN, DEC 1 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, *LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF HOPE*
10 a.m. - Worship
- WED, DEC 4 LITTLE LIGHTS CHRISTMAS SHOW
5 p.m. - Concert, Sanctuary
- SUN, DEC 8 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, *LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF LOVE*
10 a.m. - Worship, Christmas Cantata
- SAT, DEC 14 COOKIES WITH SANTA
10 a.m - Cookies, crafts and pictures with Santa, Gym
- SUN, DEC 15 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, *LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF JOY*
10 a.m. - Worship, Readings & Carols with youth choirs and brass
11:30 a.m. - Advent Market
- TUES, DEC 17 FOOD FOR THE SOUL
12 p.m. - Christmas Party
- THURS, DEC 19 TAIZÉ WINTER SOLSTICE †
7 p.m. - Service, Labyrinth walk, Gym
- SUN, DEC 22 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, *LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF PEACE*
10 a.m. - Worship
- TUES, DEC 24 CHRISTMAS EVE
5 p.m. - Family Service, Sanctuary
9 p.m. - Candlelight Service, Sanctuary
Christmas story, carols, candles, and choir

*Scan here for more
information about
Advent events*

†RSVP for childcare



UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY - LAST CHANCE TO ORDER PECAN PIES

Pecan pie sales are back! Our pecan pie sales will support the Youth Mission Trip. Pies are wonderful fresh but can be frozen (still wonderful)! Order and pay by credit card online **by today**. Cost is \$30/pie, limit two pies per person. You can also order a pie to be donated to UCAN's residential home kitchen. Pickup: November 25, 2-6 p.m.; or November 26, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Questions/concerns, please contact Mary Brown, doddbrown@sbcglobal.net, or (847) 989-5966. Purchase your pies here: <https://tinyurl.com/37cdbj9f>.

NOV 25 & 26 - THANKSGIVING BREAK PLAY DAYS - 9 a.m.-12 p.m., LL Classrooms & Gym

No school? No problem! We've got you covered. Little Lights teachers are hosting Play Days on Monday and Tuesday mornings of Thanksgiving Break. Open to the community: siblings, alumni, friends, etc. \$55/day, snack provided, 10% sibling discount. Registration for this event has closed. For more details, click here: <https://tinyurl.com/2h8p2umk>

DEC 17 - FOOD FOR THE SOUL LUNCH GROUP - 12-1:30 p.m., Social Hall.

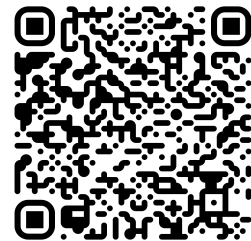
Bring your own sack lunch. We will approach Christmas with fellowship, snacks and desserts as well as Christmas music provided by Pastor Jeff Carlson. Adults of all ages are invited to make new friends and reconnect with old ones through lunch, fun and faith. Bring a friend or neighbor. Sponsored by St. Pauls Social.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HURRICANE HELENE RELIEF EFFORTS - UCC RESPONSE

The United Church of Christ is responding to the devastation caused by Hurricane Helene, which has left more than 200 dead, millions without power, and damages exceeding \$140 billion. Several UCC congregations have suffered severe flood and wind damage.

St. Pauls Activism and Advocacy Ministry has voted unanimously to donate \$500 of their Council allocated budget to UCC Hurricane Relief funds. This contribution will help fund the relief efforts of the UCC for victims of both Hurricane Helene and Milton. The Ministry is encouraging members to contribute to this effort as an act of our faith for those whose lives have been seriously impacted by this tragedy. Together we can make a difference! Donations can be made online by scanning the QR code or by check to the National UCC. Thank you for your support.



REBUILDING TOGETHER 2025

It's time! In early December, St. Pauls Rebuilding Together will commit to *one or two houses* on the last Saturday in April for our group. Are you in? Help us make this decision before the holidays. Sign up in Church Center, or email volunteer coordinator Pat Ruch (pmr.ruch@gmail.com). A more formal sign-up will be completed in spring 2025. Are you interested in working together? Let us know you're coming here: <https://tinyurl.com/nyxe9ha9>

ADVENT MARKET ITEMS NEEDED

The Advent Market is on Sunday, December 15, and will help fund our outreach and benevolence for Three Angels in Haiti. We need new or gently used items such as jewelry, candles, frames, handmade items, Christmas decorations, toys, etc. (Please, no clothing unless it is holiday specific.) Drop-off dates are **December 7**: 9 a.m.-12p.m., **December 8**: 9 a.m.-12 p.m., **December 13**: 10 a.m.-3 p.m., and **December 14**: 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Questions, please text or email Carrie Bruggers at (773) 294-4446 or crbruggs@gmail.com

UCAN GIFT DRIVE

This holiday season, the Activism and Advocacy committee is preparing to help St. Pauls participate in UCAN's gift train for another year. Beginning November 3, stop by our table during social hour and sign up to shop a wish list. This year, we have requests for gift cards only. These will be due at church by next Sunday, December 1.

In addition, we would like to provide virtual and long-distance members with an opportunity to participate. If you would like to donate a gift card for a youth at UCAN, please email Lovely Carter (carterlovely@yahoo.com) or Pauline Taylor (paulinetaylor933@gmail.com) and we will send you a gift train form. You can mail the gift card to St. Pauls United Church of Christ, 2335 N. Orchard St., Chicago, IL 60614. These also need to be at the church by next Sunday, December 1.

CHURCH SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Please register your K-6th Sunday School students, 7th and 8th grade Confirmation students, and high school class members by scanning this QR code.



CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Youth Choirs are in session! Any musically inclined kids, please join us! Kinderchapel Singers (*Preschool*) Sundays 9:50-10 a.m. in the Social Hall with Tom Clancy; Children's Choir (*grades K-3*): Sundays 9:30-9:55 a.m. in the Chapel with Breanna Coe; Paul's People (*grades 4-8*): Sundays 9:30-9:55 a.m. in the Parlor with Kecia Waldschmidt.

PALESTINE STUDY GROUP

Broaden your understanding of the Israel-Palestine conflict in this thoughtful and supportive group. All are welcome. Contact David Burnett at burnett.db@gmail.com.

“HEALING HEARTS” PET SUPPORT GROUP: ST. PAULS PET LOSS COMMUNITY

Are you struggling with losing a beloved furry friend/companion/animal assistant? Losing a pet can be one of the most heart-wrenching experiences in life. At St. Pauls, we understand the deep bond you shared with your beloved pet/family member and we're here to offer support, understanding and a virtual shoulder to lean on. To join, visit tinyurl.com/healing-hearts-support. We meet on the fourth Tuesday of every month from 7-8 p.m. Age 18+ only, 30 participants maximum.

FAITH IN ACTION MESSAGING GROUP

Some people call it showing up for a protest or marching against a government policy. Others call it public witnessing for the values inherent in our faith. Most of us appreciate being able to do both with like-minded members of our congregation. Members and friends of St. Pauls can join this group. If you'd like to receive advance email notice of such protests, gatherings or advocacy opportunities – frequently on short notice due to swift governmental action - or to invite others in the group to join you in an advocacy opportunity, join Faith in Action. Register here: tinyurl.com/wuphf495.

JOIN THE MOVEMENT - provided by SPARC

November is Native American Heritage Month and this year's theme is “Recognizing 100 Years of Citizenship and the Fight for the Right to Vote: 1924-2024”. What are the unique and deeply troubling challenges that our society and government have imposed on our indigenous siblings to suppress their voices historically and to this day? Learn more at tinyurl.com/36fvkx3n

CREATION CORNER - provided by Green Team

REDUCE HOLIDAY WASTE

Give homemade, alternative Christmas gifts made by you and your family. Food gifts are the best because everyone eats. These gifts packaged in reusable glass jars are great. Homemade food gifts look impressive and taste delicious.

Examples: Nutella, granola, coffee liqueur, Moroccan spiced nuts, chocolate bark with nuts, smoky taco seasoning, lemon rosemary shortbread, dry soup mix, extracts, chai spiced almond butter, pumpkin spice ball tea (recipes online).

STEPHEN MINISTRY AT ST. PAULS

Our Stephen Ministers are here for you if you are going through a tough time. Extensively trained in compassionate Christian caregiving, Stephen Ministers are matched confidentially with someone in our congregation who is going through a crisis, such as the death of a loved one, a diagnosis, a divorce, a job loss, etc. They meet with you once a week for an hour to offer support through listening, companionship and prayer. If you wonder whether having a Stephen Minister might be helpful for you, please speak with Pastor Jeff, jcarlson@spucc.org. Every one of us could benefit from a Stephen Minister at some point in our lives.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please send announcements for St. Pauls-sponsored events to info@spucc.org no later than 10 a.m. on Wednesdays, for publication in the Friday email and next Sunday bulletin. You are welcome to share personal announcements and other event invitations in our Facebook Group, St. Pauls Together.

Please limit announcements to 100 words. Thank you!

St. Pauls UCC
Giving Campaign 2025
October 27, 2024 - January 14, 2025

\$1,000,000
\$950,000
\$900,000
\$800,000
\$700,000
\$600,000
\$500,000
\$400,000
\$300,000
\$200,000
\$100,000

Embrace, Nurture, Inspire

WELCOME TO ST. PAULS!

Thank you for coming to worship with us today! Help us get to know you better by scanning the QR code below.



WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

Scan the QR codes to discover ways to connect with others.

JOIN A GROUP



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



TODAY'S MUSIC

From the Top of My Head was composed by Roy Hargrove (1969-2018). In his all too short life, Hargrove became one of the greats in the jazz performing and recording world. He was a composer whose principal instruments were trumpet and flugelhorn. In addition to jazz, he also performed and recorded hip-hop, R & B, gospel, funk, and alternative rock. Born in Waco, Texas, he attended the Berklee College of Music in Boston for one year, but an active performing and recording career ended his formal training. He made and contributed to numerous recordings. His 14-year battle with kidney disease ended with his death in 2018.

The Countless Hosts in White Array is a Norwegian folk melody from the 17th century. DEN STORE HVIDE FLOK, which is the tune name, is the first line of the Norwegian poem by Hans Adolf Brorson (1694-1764), who composed the poem in c. 1760. Helen A. Dickinson (1875-1957) provided the translation into English in 1907.

This hymn arrangement was made by one of Norway's most famous composers, Edvard Grieg (1843-1907). Among Grieg's many great works are the *Peer Gynt Suite* and his *Piano Concerto*.

The author of the text of ***For All the Saints*** was William Walsham How (1823-1897). He penned the poetry we love so much in 1864. How was an Oxford graduate and served many parishes in England throughout his life. Just to prove that there can be a sense of humor even in hymn tune names, SINE NOMINE, means "no name" in Latin. The stirring music was written in 1906 by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). He is one of the greatest English composers of the post-Victorian era, having composed music for nearly all genres of performance.

Be Still My Soul employs a tune called FINLANDIA, because the melody was composed by Jean Sibelius (1865-1957) as part of his famous tone poem by the same name that honored his homeland. The original German text is by Kathrina von Schlegel (1697-17??) and was translated into English by Scottish Jane Borthwick (1813-1897), who translated and composed many hymn texts.

Both the text and music for ***Softly and Tenderly*** were composed in 1880 by Will L. Thompson (1847-1909), which also explains the naming of the tune, THOMPSON. He was born in Ohio, and after unsuccessful attempts to sell his songs, he started his own publishing firm. He composed both the text and music for numerous hymns, but this is his most famous.

Goin' Home is an anthem based on a beautiful theme in the *Symphony No. 9*, "Symphony From a New World," by Antonin Dvořák (1841-1904). Dvořák was a Czech composer who spent a very important part of his career in the United States. He was deeply affected by folk music of his Bohemian heritage, so it is not surprising that during his time in our country he was also moved by the African American spirituals he heard. The famous African American composer Harry Thacker Burleigh worked with Dvořák for many years, so it was assumed that the tune we associate with *Goin' Home* was a spiritual Dvořák had heard. The problem is that there is no record of a spiritual with that title or melody. It is a tribute to Dvořák that he created a melody that was an homage to a musical genre that was foreign to him, but also tugged at the roots of his love for Bohemian folk music. The words were added in 1922 by one of his American students, William Arms Fisher, who expressed the hope and belief of life beyond death just "close by, through an open door."

Now Thank We All Our God is a translation by Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878) of the original German by Martin Rinkart (1586-1649) written in 1636. Winkworth, although born in England, spent many years in Dresden, which is why she was so adept at translating German chorales. She was also a tireless fighter for women's rights. Rinkart became a scholar at St. Thomas School in Leipzig where Bach would later be Kapellmeister. The tune, NUN DANKET, takes its name from the first words of the German text. It is most often attributed to Johann Crüger (1558-1662), who in reality was the publisher of the psalter where this hymn tune first appeared.

The ***Final*** from *Symphony No. 1 in D minor, Op 14* was composed by Louis Vierne (1870-1937) in 1888 to 1889. Along with Charles-Marie Widor, Vierne was one of the great Romantic symphonists for organ. Born blind, he composed six symphonies for the organ and was also the organist of Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris from 1900 until his death. In fact, Vierne collapsed and died at the console at Notre Dame at the close of a recital there. Maurice Duruflé was at his side as an assistant that day. The *Final* shows Vierne's brilliance as both a composer and his talent as a performer.

Special Music Theme for 2024-2025

HEAR Ye! + Bach

Enjoy another year of special music during worship services.

H- Hebrew

E - English

A - Austrian

R - Russian

November 3, 2024 - Reformation Sunday - *Lobet den Herrn* - Bach

December 8, 2024 - Christmas Cantata (Hebrew & English)

Nachamu, nachamu ami - Max Janowski (*Comfort, Comfort Ye My People*)

Fantasia on Christmas Carols - Ralph Vaughan Williams

with guest artist William Buchman, from the Chicago Symphony Orchestra

February 16, 2025 - Northwestern University Chapel Choir – Guest choir in worship

March 9, 2025 - *Komm, Jesu, komm* - Bach

April 6, 2025 - (Austria) - *Requiem* - Mozart

May 18, 2025 - (Russian) - *Symphony of Psalms* - Stravinsky/Shostakovich

Mark these dates in your calendar!

ABOUT ST. PAULS

Making a Joyful Sound in the City!

St. Pauls UCC has a vibrant history in the city of Chicago. Founded in 1843, we are one of the city's oldest churches. In 1989, we became one of America's first congregations to declare ourselves "Open and Affirming" of LGBTQ+ people.

From founding Chicago's largest provider of social services to at-risk children to starting a home for the elderly, from housing protestors at the 1968 Democratic Convention to hosting Lincoln Park's first MLK day march against violence on Chicago's streets, we are proud to make a joyful sound in the city.

Most important, over the past 181 years we are glad to have introduced thousands of children and adults to the amazing, inclusive, life changing, uplifting love of God. We do so in worship that is traditional, but far from conventional.

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Associate Pastor Liz Nickerson, lnickerson@spucc.org

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WELCOME TO SAINT PAULS UCC!

Welcome to those whose hearts are on fire with faith,
and to those who bring their doubt inside our doors.

Welcome to our first time guests and
our longtime members.

Welcome to single people, tiny children,
grandparents and families of all configurations.

Welcome to those who rejoice and to those who grieve.

Welcome to LGPTQ+ people.

Welcome to each and to everyone.

We are blessed by your presence and
we are glad you are here.